



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
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MCO 1700.22D
MHH
29 Aug 97

MARINE CORPS ORDER 1700.22D

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL IN THE MARINE CORPS

Ref: (a) Navy Regulations 1990, Article 1162
(b) SECNAVINST 1700.11
(c) MCO P1700.27
(d) MCO P5300.12A
(e) ALNAV 11/96

1. Purpose. To promulgate Marine Corps policy concerning the possession, sale, and consumption of alcoholic beverages within the Marine Corps.

2. Cancellation. MCO 1700.22C.

3. Summary of Revision. This Order is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

4. Background. References (a) and (b) outline the Department of the Navy policy regarding possession, sale, and consumption of alcoholic beverages. Policy relating to the administration of alcoholic beverages in retail outlets within the Marine Corps activities is contained, in part, in reference (c). Marine Corps policy concerning use and abuse of alcoholic beverages is in reference (d).

5. Policy. The Marine Corps permits the possession, sale, and consumption of alcoholic beverages in certain authorized areas aboard Marine Corps installations and within Marine Corps tenant activities located on Government reservations. Use of alcoholic beverages on these installations must be consistent with the overriding need for military readiness, discipline, and community safety. In meeting this objective, the sale, purchase, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages will be governed by the following considerations:

a. Measures to prevent and deter abuse, as provided in reference (d), must be an integral part of the management of alcoholic beverages on Marine Corps installations.

b. Sale of beverages during recreational activities should be balanced with nonalcoholic and alcoholic beverages to

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encourage healthful lifestyles for Marines, their families, and friends.

c. Except as specifically authorized in the Order, the sale, purchase, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages within any Marine Corps installation is prohibited.

d. Marine Corps activities located at installations hosted by other services shall also abide by the provisions of this Order and reference (c).

6. Definition. The term "alcoholic beverage" shall include distilled spirits wines, wine-based coolers, and malt beverages.

7. Sale of Packaged Alcoholic Beverages

a. The sale of packaged alcoholic beverages will be at only authorized packaged alcohol beverage stores.

b. The selling price of all packaged alcoholic beverages within the United States will not be lower than the lowest average prevailing shelf price of local civilian outlets.

8. Sale, Possession, and Consumption by the Drink. Commanders are authorized to permit the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages by the drink in the following facilities:

a. Commissioned officers' clubs.

b. Staff noncommissioned officers' clubs.

c. Enlisted clubs.

d. Consolidated clubs.

e. Golf course club houses when the lounge is operated by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) System.

f. Marine Corps temporary lodging facilities operated by the MWR System. This authority is limited to the sale of miniature-sized containers of distilled spirits and wine and individual containers of malt beverages for on-premises possession and consumption in rooms or suites.

g. VIP rooms and suites in bachelor officers' quarters. This authority is limited to the sale of miniature-sized

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containers of distilled spirits and wine and individual containers of malt beverages for on-premises possession and consumption in rooms or suites. Sales will be controlled by the MWR.

h. Bowling center lounges operated by the MWR system.

i. Areas designated by the installation commander for command entertainment or organized social functions on an occasional basis.

j. Sale, possession, and consumption of malt beverages at:

(1) MWR snack bars

(2) Marine Corps Exchange snack bars

(3) Bachelor officers' quarters and bachelor enlisted quarters. This authority is limited to the sale for on-premises consumption through beer-vending machines which are under constant supervision to ensure the purchaser meets the required drinking age.

k. Sale, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages by the drink at other facilities only when specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Navy.

9. Possession and Consumption in Government Quarters. Subject to the drinking age for the installation, commanders are authorized to permit the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in Government quarters as follows:

a. Married officers' quarters.

b. Bachelor officers' quarters.

c. Married enlisted quarters.

d. Bachelor staff noncommissioned officers' quarters.

e. Bachelor enlisted quarters.

f. Civilian employee quarters.

10. Minimum Drinking Age. Reference (e) removed all exceptions to the sale of alcoholic beverages to military personnel. In accordance with the Department of the Navy policy:

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a. All Marine Corps installations will conform to the drinking age limitations of the state or country in which they are located.

b. Overseas installations and ships/activities visiting foreign ports will conform to local country law, but, in no case will drinking be permitted below the age of 18.

c. All Marines will abide by the minimum drinking age of the state or country in which they are located, regardless of other service's policies.

11. Employment of Personnel to Dispense Alcoholic Beverages.

No person shall be employed within any installation as a bartender or in any other capacity involving the selling or dispensing of alcoholic beverages when such employment in a civilian establishment is prohibited by state law because of age. MWR employees involved in the sale, dispensing, or serving of alcoholic beverages will be trained in exercising alcohol beverage control to enable "responsible" consumption per references (d) and (e).

12. Action. Commanders of Marine Corps installations and commanders of Marine

Corps tenant activities permanently located aboard Government reservations, other than Marine Corps installations, will issue detailed alcoholic beverage control instructions. These instructions will conform to local laws, to the extent that such laws are consistent with Federal law and policy, to international agreements in foreign countries, and to the provisions of references (a) through (d) and this Order. The provisions of this Order apply to Marine Corps activities and to individual Marines serving on other Government reservations.

13. Reserve Applicability. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.



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